

Topics of the Times

The deaths from storms and floods in 1902 were 12,000.

England does \$1,071,377,000 worth of business with its colonies, which cost about \$12,000,000 a year.

One cannot survive in an atmosphere containing more than one part of carbonic acid gas to 233 of air.

New measurements confirm the report that Mount McKinley, in Alaska, is the highest peak in North America.

Blankets were first made by Blanket brothers, at Bristol, England, about the middle of the thirteenth century.

The mechanical force of the sound emitted from 5,000,000 to 10,000,000 cornets would equal but one horse power.

The United States and Great Britain together handle more letters and periodicals than all the rest of the world put together.

Personally fitted dog blankets of sealskin can now be had for \$30 each in New York if made without handkerchief pocket.

That the gas engine, large or small, is developed to an efficiency at which it can rival the steam engine in reliability is now admitted.

A pressure recorder attached to the row lock of the racing shell will hereafter be used to determine the work done by each oarsman.

Seventy poets of Germany have agreed with one another to sell no poems for less than 12 cents a line. They might adopt a union label.

American have the franchise for a railway from Amsterdam twelve miles to Haarlem. Even the Dutch encourage Yankee enterprise.

The Rev. Dr. W. S. Rainsford, of New York, when asked how he regarded the action of Vermont in repudiating prohibition, said: "I would rather see a man free than sober."

Baron de Sibert has entered an action against the Paris metropolitan railway for twopenny, the price of a toy balloon which his child was not allowed to take into one of the carriages, and was obliged to leave behind him.

A man has built up a big business at Puget Sound, near Vancouver, as the result of a holiday excursion. Instead of loafing aimlessly, he used his eyes, and, noticing a little fish, which he took to be a sardine, had some tinned, with the ultimate result that his establishment has this year sent out 175,000 cases.

The 10,000,000 inhabitants of Caucasia are made up of the remnants of many ancient nomadic tribes. According to Russian statistics, only 2,500,000 are Russians, 1,000,000 are Armenians, 1,500,000 Tartars and Georgians, while the rest are principally Mohammedan tribes. It is asserted that there are thirty different languages and dialects spoken in Caucasia.

When Mr. Chamberlain was about to commence the speech which he made from the balcony of the Marine Hotel, at Durban, he was startled by the sudden apparition of a reporter, who slid down a pillar from the roof, and arrived breathless and dusty, but notebook in hand. Mr. Chamberlain was astonished. "Whom do you represent?" he said. "The entire press of the empire," was the reply.

Transcaucasia grows almost every known grain in the world. The forests of the Caucasian mountain range produce saffron, madder, oak, walnut and boxwood lumber, while apples, pears and grapes grow wild in these forests to such an extent that they are exported in large quantities. The wine of Caucasia is also exported, and the cotton of the country is second only to that of Egypt.

Senator Alger tells a story of W. H. Vanderbilt, who owned Maud S. He had purchased a horse from Mr. Vanderbilt about the time the latter had sold the famous mare, and asked the millionaire: "Why did you part with such a notable animal?" Mr. Vanderbilt replied: "When I drove her along the street the people used to say: 'There goes Maud S.' They never thought of saying: 'There goes Vanderbilt.' I could play second fiddle to a mare—even such a mare."

"COMFORTERS" AND "CLOUDS."

Articles of Apparel Worn by Boys and Girls Twenty-five Years Ago.

In the long ago the small boy did not have an overcoat. He wore a big, gay scarf which some relative had knit for him. With this scarf wound around his throat twice or thrice, with red yarn mittens on his hands and blue yarn stockings on his feet, the old-time schoolboy was comfortable and contented in the coldest weather. Men also wore those big, gay, party-colored knit comforters, and that within twenty-five years. They were half a yard wide, several yards long, and had all the colors of the rainbow in them. In the rural districts an occasional worsted comforter is still seen, but those of to-day are small and modest affairs compared with the Christmas presents of crocheted gorgeousness that townsmen used to receive.

Ladies wore the long "cloud," or nubia, which might be any color the wearer fancied. They went round the head two or three times in lieu of a hood, and as many times round the neck. The writer recalls an amusing experience of her early years in which one of these clouds played an important part.

One night, at the close of the singing school, the new schoolmaster asked to walk home with her. She accepted,

and they set off on the walk, by no means a short one. It was a bitter cold night, with a sharp sting in the air. Wrapped round her head and neck the young woman wore a long white cloud. She felt a little distressed when she saw that her escort wore only a plain overcoat with a turn-down collar. He was a college sophomore, and had only recently come to the village.

Soon after they started he turned up his coat collar, and shortly after that he rubbed his ears surreptitiously.

"It is awfully cold," said the young woman. "I'm afraid your ears will freeze."

"I guess not," he said, cheerfully; but a few minutes later he added, "I don't know but they will. I'll give them a rub if you don't mind stopping." The rubbings were repeated several times.

"Now see here," said the girl, who was of a practical turn of mind. "Half of my cloud is enough for me," and she showed the long ends, which fell to her knees. "You take half of it," saying which she unwound the woolen scarf and rearranged it over her head and neck so that there was a yard or more to spare.

Like a sensible young man the schoolmaster accepted the proffered end, and wound it about his ears. Thus tied together the young couple resumed their walk. He had no further trouble with his ears, and acted on the girl's suggestion that he wear the cloud on his return walk.

It did not occur to either of the young people at the time that they looked funny, but they have since had many a hearty laugh over the experience.—Youth's Companion.

BET ON WRONG HAT.

Horse with the Headgear Name Was Bound to Win.

During the racing season at Sheepshead Bay a party of friends visited the track one Saturday for an afternoon's pleasure. Among the number was an old chap of the name of Jackson, who every night for a month past had been dreaming of hats, hats, hats. He dreamed he had bought hats of every size and description by the wholesale; that his rooms were piled up to the ceiling with them, and when he awoke in the morning it would be some minutes before he could satisfy himself that he wasn't really in the hat business.

His mind had almost given away with this strange hallucination. And it was for this very reason, with the hope of getting his mind from the subject of hats, that he was asked to be one of a party to visit the races.

A jolly crowd of six, among whom was Jackson, started for the track about noon. Each one was anxious to try his luck on the horses, but none was financially equipped to back them heavily. In the list of horses entered for the first race was one Hatasso, at 15 to 1 shot, and it caught Jackson's eye immediately.

"I'll play him for \$3 on the strength of my dream," said Jackson, "and I wager I'll win the money."

His friends crowded around him, but Jackson was the only one who had the nerve to put any money on his choice. The bet was laid and Jackson nervously edged his way through the crowd, his friends following, where the start could be best seen.

Eight horses stamped the track, each one looking fit for the race of his life. "They're off!" cried the starter as the steeds tore past the grand stand.

"Hatasso leads at the quarter by a length!" cried some one in the grand stand. Jackson beamed with joy.

"Hatasso leads by two lengths at the half," soon followed. Jackson doffed his hat and wildly cheered. His friends slapped him on the back and were all kicking themselves for not having played the little horse, too.

"Hatasso still leads!" rang out a voice as the horse passed the three-quarter mark.

They were now coming down the homestretch and every neck was strained with eagerness. The noise of the horses' hoofs was drowned by the applause. The grand stand fairly shook. It was a beautiful race to watch. In another second the horses passed the string. The clapping ceased and there was a lull. The race was very close.

"Sombbrero wins by a nose!" came a voice from the judges' stand. "Hatasso, second."

Jackson's head dropped, his eyes rested on the ground.

"I don't care," he was heard to say. "I knew some kind of a hat was sure to win, and it did."

And the following races were watched, says the New York Times, but not played by any of Jackson's crowd that day.

Field on Early Berries.

It was about this time of year when the late Eugene Field, of Kansas City, Denver and Chicago was boarding at a "swell place" in Denver. A few strawberries were on the market at \$1 a pair, and the landlady invested. Field was a star boarder. She passed a strawberry. He looked at it mournfully, and then replied to the proffer of the vegetable diamond:

"No, thanks, ma'am; I'm afraid it would spoil my taste for prunes!"—Baltimore News.

One of the Staying Sort.

Subbubs—We've got a new girl at our house.

Backlotz—Hah! It's easy enough to get a new girl, but can you keep her?

Subbubs—The doctor thinks so. He declares she weighs nine pounds at least.—Philadelphia Press.

Some women seem to think their husbands are made of gold dust.

Falls Under the Wheels.

Beatrice, Neb., April 13.—Thomas Johnson, a young man twenty-one years of age, was instantly killed in the Rock Island yards here at 5 o'clock this morning and his body frightfully mangled. The dead man and his brother, Robert, one year his senior, were on their way from Des Moines to Colorado. They were expert miners and work being slack in Iowa, were going to the Colorado coal fields. Although they both had plenty of money, over \$100 being found on the body of the man killed, \$90 of which was sewed in his undershirt, the men were beating their way as a means of economy.

When the Rock Island freight which they boarded at Horton Kansas, last night, reached here, the car they were in was set out. They waited until the train was made up and about to start out when they attempted to board the car next to the engine. The oldest brother made the car bright, but noticed that his brother had fallen to the ground, and as he leaped to the ground he caught one glimpse of his brother under the wheels. He was dead before they could reach him. The train only contained six cars, all of which passed over the unfortunate man. The body was completely severed below the breastbone. The left arm was cut off below the shoulder and portions of the body were picked up two blocks away the hands being partially severed and the face badly bruised.

Coroner Walden was notified but no inquest was held. The remains were taken to Ryan's undertaking rooms and prepared for shipment, the brother turning his face homeward over the Burlington at 2 o'clock this afternoon.

Both men show evidences of refinement and were well dressed. Both belong to the order of Red Men, members of which order lent what assistance they could to lighten the surviving brother's burdens while here.

The parents of the young men reside at No. 3010 West Second street Des Moines. They have one sister living in Omaha, who is said to be quite wealthy and prominent. The surviving brother keenly felt the disgrace caused by their manner of travel and hoped the matter could be kept from his sister in Omaha. The two left home last Thursday night.

The elder brother was heart broken by the sudden and terrible taking away of his brother and felt that he was partially responsible in not having counseled against traveling in that manner and feared he might be criticised. He bought an elaborate burial outfit having about three hundred dollars with them.

Railroading him to Asylum

Indianapolis, Ind., April 11.—An effort to hold an insanity commission on Rufus Cantrell, the negro who is charged with grave robbing, broke up in a row today. Charges of bribery were openly made by one of the attorneys representing Cantrell. It was also charged that an effort was being made to "railroad" Cantrell to the insane asylum so that he could not appear as a witness against Dr. Alexander, whose trial is set for next week.

When Suler Emerich declared the court open and that the examination of witnesses would begin, prosecutor Ruchshaus protested against the proceedings. He said:

"I have a right to see that no man is 'railroaded' to the insane asylum instead of getting his just dues for crimes committed against the state. I stand here on my rights and I demand that this commission continue the inquest until after the trial of Dr. Alexander."

Keeps Far In Wilderness

Cinnabar, Mont., April 11.—Secretary Loeb received no word from President Roosevelt today. The president is in the mountains at a camp forty miles from his headquarters. When he started for this place yesterday morning it was his intention to remain there for a number of days and possibly a week. Snow fell today in the vicinity of which the president has gone, but the fall apparently was not heavy. John Burroughs the naturalist, did not accompany the president yesterday, as he was suffering from a slight cold. This has about disappeared now, and it is Mr. Burroughs' intention to join the president tomorrow. While Mr. Burroughs will be with the president off and on during his stay in the park he will not accompany him on all his trips. The president is studying animal plant life in the park and is enjoying himself there.

Murder in Second Degree

St. James, Minn., April 11.—The jury in the Tanke murder trial, after an all-night session, today rendered a verdict of second degree murder. Judge Gray sentenced the prisoner to life imprisonment and gave the attorneys twenty-five days' stay. Frank Tanke was charged with the murder of John Welner, the farmer of whom he worked, and whose wife he afterwards married. Mrs. Tanke is now serving a life sentence.

COL. CODY IS HURT

Horse Slipped and Fell With the Great Scout During Show

HIS CAREER AS SHOWMAN

The First Organization in Omaha in 1877

Manchester, England, April 14 W. F. Cody, "Buffalo Bill," met with an accident at the first performance of his show here today. His horse reared and fell on him. He was removed to a hotel. This is the first bad accident that has happened to Colonel Cody in years.

It was immediately after the Sioux war of 1876 that "Buffalo Bill" decided upon a career as a showman. He had been previously initiated into the show business by Ned Bueline.

He proceeded to collect Indians, cowboys, scouts, trappers, buffaloes, etc., and produced the Wild West show for the first time in Omaha, Neb., on May 17, 1883. It is said that over fifty thousand people paid to witness the mimic representation or scenes and incidents with which but a few years before they could have witnessed in reality. The great success of this show and its original character, soon gave it a tremendous vogue and Colonel Cody was besieged with applications from all the principal cities of the country. He continued to enlarge his exhibition and improve it, associating with him Nat Salsbury, already experienced and successful in the theatrical production, and together they brought into existence a combination such as never was seen before. After exhibiting it in all parts of the United States in 1887 the American Exhibition company, which was then making an exhibition of American products and manufacture at Earle's court, London, England and produced the Wild West in connection with the American exhibition of Yankees, as it was called. If it had not been for the Wild West show, the American exhibition would have been a complete failure. As it was, it was patronized by the royal family, including Queen Victoria and became the rage in London, so that the entire experiment proved a great success.

After the London exhibition was closed Cody went on to the continent and played with success in France, Spain, Italy, Austria, Germany, Belgium, returning to America some months later and making a tour through the New England states. He was at that time worth nearly a million dollars the most of which he invested in western real estate. Salsbury was worth about as much. Several times since the show has toured Europe with great success.

The show was destroyed in South Carolina last fall. After the reorganization the trip to Europe was made. His daughter, Irma Cody, was recently married to Lieut. Stoot, of North Platte, Neb.

LIGHTNING CALCULATOR DEAD

Trenton, N. J., April 14.—William Vallance, the famous lightning calculator who could do any sum in mathematical calculation mentally, and with an instant's hesitation, is dead, aged thirty years. About a week ago he was taken to the state hospital suffering from a severe mental strain, believed to be the result of his work with figures.

Vallance could duplicate the feats of any of the lightning calculators and then beat them all by stating instantly any desired date in history. He could not tell how he knew history, but would rattle off fact after fact without ever making a mistake. He could give instant answers to such arithmetic questions as multiply 389,487 by 4,641, and problems in algebra were his delight.

BFEF TRUST PAYS FINE.

Kansas City, Mo., April 14.—The five Missouri packing companies which were fined \$5,000 each on March 20 for violation of the anti-trust law, through their attorney, Frank Hagerman of this city, have mailed to the state supreme court a draft for 27,136 in payment of fines and costs incident to the action against them. The firms fined are the Armour Packing company, Cudahy Packing company, Hammond Packing company, Swift & Co., and Schwarzschild & Sulzberger.

TEACHERS QUIT IN A BODY

St. John, N. B. April 14 The east bound express from Boston, which left here today at noon, collided with a fast freight at Windsor Junction, N. S. at 1:30 this evening killing the engineer and fireman on both trains and injuring five others. Driver Nelson Copeland and Fireman Hill were on the freight and William Wain and Fireman M. Oakley on the express. Both trains are in the ditch and telegraph wires are in the wreck.

KELETON WITH ISWORD IN HAND

One of the Battleships Sunk by Admiral Dewey in Manila is Reloated

Manila, April 15.—The war ship Reina Christina, flag ship of Admiral Monejo, which was sunk by Admiral Dewey was floated and beached yesterday. The skeletons of about eighty of her crew were found in the bulk.

One skeleton was evidently that of an officer, for it had a sword by his side. There was fifteen shell holes in the hull of the Reina Christina, one made by an 8-inch and the others small. The main injection valve is missing, showing the ship was scuttled when abandoned. The hull is in fair condition.

Captain Albert R. Couden, commanding the naval station at Cavite took charge of the remains of the sailors expressing the desire to give them an American naval funeral.

The Spanish residents, however, are anxious to ship the skeletons to Spain and it is suggested that the United States transport Summer convey them to Spain by the way of the Suez canal in June.

A wrecking company is endeavoring to raise all the sunken Spanish warships.

Bills Which Passed

The following list of bills were signed by the governor Friday:

H. R. 136, by Davis, permitting county treasurers to deposit county money in banks outside the county, reducing the rate of interest for the county money to 2 per cent; permitting the state treasurer to deposit money in depository banks at 2 per cent.

H. R. 275, by Burgess to require mutual hail insurance companies to retain 50 per cent of the gross income for the payment of losses.

H. R. 31 by Koetter, decreasing the interest on Omaha school district warrants to 5 per cent.

H. R. 79, by Loomis, relating to the power of the annual school meetings and placing a limit upon the expenditures in sparsely settled school districts.

H. R. 287, by Ten Eyck, providing that a "waste" bond in appeal cases shall include the value of the use of the property until delivery or possession under judgment.

S. F. 254 by Fries for disposition of money paid under protest and providing for the filing in the office of secretary of an irrigation district a copy of the tax receipt and affidavit. Relates exclusively to irrigation districts.

S. F. 185, authorizing the members of the Nebraska state relief commission to be relieved of a \$300 surplus for money handled.

The following list of bills were signed by the governor Saturday:

House roll 115, by Sadler, appropriating \$15,000 for the purchase of land for the Hastings asylum for the insane.

House roll 347, by Copey, for systems of sewerage in cities of less than five thousand inhabitants.

House roll 281, by Ribble, making it unlawful to engage or to keep carts for counterfeit railroad tickets.

House roll 165, by Fishback, for drainage for agricultural and sanitary purposes.

House roll 226, by Christy, appropriating \$3,000 for a comfort building with water closets on the state fair grounds.

Senate file 239, by Hall, of Burt, road improvement bill.

Must Warn Workmen.

Denver Col. April 15.—Employers who fail to explain to men taking the places of others who may be out on a strike the annoyance or violence to which he may be subjected are liable for damages in case of injury is done.

This is the opinion of the court just handed down in the case of William Holchauer, who, while in the employ of the Denver Gas and Electric company was shot by striking employes of the company. He declared that he was hired without being told that there was a strike at the plant.

In giving the opinion of the court Justice Thompson said:

"The controlling feature of the case is that the employer knowingly exposed the employe to personal danger and concealed the danger from him. It is intimated that during the intervening time the plaintiff sought to have discovered that a strike was in existence, and that the defendant's old employes were in no tranquil frame of mind.

"How he might have made the discovery unless he had seen or heard something to suggest inquiry we are not told. It is alleged that the plaintiff did not know that there was a strike or that he was in any danger until he was attacked. This explicit statement of fact is not to be met by mere argument."

Five Killed in Explosion.

South M'Alister, I. T. April 15.—Five men were killed and two severely burned by a gas explosion in mine 77 of the Kansas & Texas Coal company at Carbon, I. T.

The cause of the explosion is unknown. Seventy-five men were in the mine but all escaped injury except the seven who were working in the chamber where the explosion occurred. All except one had families.

Nebraska Notes

The Superior and Oak High school teams played ball Saturday afternoon. The score was 12 to 15 in favor of Superior.

The board of directors have set the dates for Boone county's next fair for September 22, 23, 24 and 25. Isaaq Leston was re-elected president.

O. D. Lyon, postmaster at Sidney, Nebr., has resigned and removed to Lincoln. He will have charge of the sale of Union Pacific lands in Nebraska, Kansas and Colorado with headquarters at 1134 O street.

Judge Jessen, of Plattsmouth sentenced Oscar Kledge who was found guilty of larceny, to one year in the penitentiary. His sentence will begin at the time of his arrest—January 26. A motion for a new trial was overruled.

C. H. Morrill, of Lincoln and G. W. Wattles, of Omaha are two of the commissioners selected by Governor Mickey to take charge of the state exhibit at St. Louis. Mr. Morrill has had considerable experience in the work and Mr. Wattles aided in the exposition at Omaha.

The Ellen A. Hodge home place, consisting of 160 acres and located one mile north of Wood River, was sold yesterday to Jos ph H. Elijah, of Billings, Montana, for \$10,000, being about \$63 per acre. is the highest price ever paid for land in this vicinity.

C. E. Benson, teacher of the school in district 24, near Falls City, was defendant in a case before the county court a few days ago. Benson was arrested at the instance of Chris Ho n one of the patrons of the school complaining that his boy had been severely punished by the teacher. A number of witnesses testified, among them two physicians, who had examined the bruises. The switch was offered in evidence. After hearing the testimony the court fined Benson \$5 and costs, amounting to nearly \$100 dollars. It is said most of the directors and patrons of the district sided with the teacher. The case will be appealed to the district court.

One of the junior normal schools provided for by the legislature is to be located at Holdrege. This will make the school accessible to the central western part of the state and is considered by Superintendent Fowler an ideal location for the junior normal. Superintendent Fowler left for Holdrege Tuesday evening and will meet with the county superintendents and educators of Phelps and adjoining counties while at Holdrege for the purpose of discussing the plan of location of other of these schools. Holdrege is on the main line of the Burlington and is the county seat of Phelps county. It is situated eighteen miles west of the ninety-ninth meridian and is located in one of the thickly settled portions of the state.

Saturday night, Welch Lowery, who has been confined in the Stanton county jail succeeded in making his escape. It was first discovered about 4 o'clock Saturday morning by Mr. Clabhan the watchman employed to watch the jail. The Stanton county jail is merely two steel cells opening into a steel corridor. Lowery was kept in the orridor. The door leading to the cells were locked. In one of these cells some time ago it was discovered that the inmates had done some drilling but the bars surrounding it were still untouched. Last night unknown parties went to the jail door, opened the outside, one handed Welch a poker that was lying outside of the cell and probably other tools and opened the door leading to corridor into the north cell. He soon succeeded in drilling through the bars under the floor and in digging out under the jail. This young man is only twenty-five years of age, and is charged with rape, and burglary committed last September when he broke into the residence of W. S. Border and compelled Anna Bilawa who was employed in the Border home to accompany him to the sand hills south of this place.

Commenting upon the fact that a girl fell out of the buggy and her lover drove two miles before he missed her, a Nebraska editor says: "When we were a young lover, the hind wheels might come off, the spring break, or the horse fall out of the shafts, without our knowing it, but the girl was always safely anchored."

Mrs. Jennie Reesman died at her home at University Place Tuesday evening after many years of sickness. She was the wife of S. H. Reesman, the postmaster at University Place. Funeral services were held Thursday afternoon and the body taken to Mount Pleasant, Ia., for burial.